

VZCZCXRO4242
RR RUEHAG RUEHDF RUEHIK RUEHLZ
DE RUEHLI #1379 1911431
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 101431Z JUL 06
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4965
INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES
RUCPDOG/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0533

UNCLAS LISBON 001379

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ECON](#) [ECPS](#) [EINT](#) [ETRD](#) [ETTC](#) [PT](#)

SUBJECT: ICANN: PORTUGAL AGAINST HEAVY OVERSIGHT, BUT WILL FOLLOW EU CONSENSUS

REF: A. A) STATE 89981

[1](#)B. B) STATE 108105

[1](#)1. SUMMARY: Portugal disagrees with transferring oversight of the Internet,s domain name and addressing system (DNS) to a newly created multinational organization or the United Nations. However, it will follow the consensus of the European Union. END SUMMARY.

[1](#)2. POL/ECON Officer delivered reftel demarche on July 7 to Dr. Luis Magalhaes, President of the Knowledge Society Agency and senior official on internet-related issues at the Portuguese Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education. According to Magalhaes, the GOP generally supports the USG plan for privatization, but wants any oversight to be transparent and practical.

[1](#)3. When questioned about the ongoing debate over transferring the Department of Commerce,s oversight of ICANN to a multinational organization or the United Nations, Magalhaes replied that ICANN and its council have "done well" and that such change could result in the loss of "openness in domain naming" and efficiency. However, as a member of the EU, Portugal will follow EU consensus on this issue.

[1](#)4. In addition to talking points, post provided Magalhaes with a copy of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration,s (NTIA) Notice of Inquiry and general information about the July 26 public meeting at the DOC. Magalhaes has agreed to pass this information to other appropriate GOP officials, including Portuguese diplomats in Washington, and follow up with post should the GOP have questions or require additional information.
Hoffman